(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to revive the subsidy scheme for ship building industry for its promotion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Shipbuilding Subsidy Scheme extended on 25th October, 2002 by the Government to all the shipyards, including private sector shipyards, expired on 14th August, 2007. A proposal for Liquidation of Committed Liability for payment of subsidy for ongoing shipbuilding contracts entered upto 14th August, 2007, the date of expiry of the subsidy scheme is under consideration.

(c) and (d) A proposal for revival of the shipbuilding subsidy scheme as per the terms to be decided by the competent authority is under consideration.

Elevated road on NH-9

1973. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest status of the proposal of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, sent to his Ministry, for constructing a elevated 36 K.M. long four-lane road from BHEL, Ramachandrapuram to Hayathnagar on NH-9 which is urgently required to be sanctioned in view of heavy traffic and clogging of the road;

(b) the reasons for delay in sanctioning the proposal; and

(c) by when this four-lane road is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No, such proposal has been received in the Ministry.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Safety of pedestrians from road accidents

1974. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 90 per cent of pedestrians feel unsafe while crossing roads as per a survey conducted by Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) and nearly 280 people die in road accidents every day in our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the road safety measures taken by Government to control the accidents;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to have a national policy on road safety so that campaigns can be formulated and carried out in a sustained manner; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) carried out a Research Study titled 'Pedestrian Safety at Urban Intersections in Delhi' in April, 2008, according to which more than 90% of pedestrian feel unsafe while crossing roads. This was deduced from the opinion survey of pedestrian conducted for this project work. During the year ending 31/12/2006, total number of persons killed in road accidents was 105749 translating into 290 accident deaths per day. The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, this department has taken several steps to improve road safety for road users which are as under:—

(i) Road safety is an integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.

(ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India.

(iii) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector being implemented by the Department since 1997-98 under plan activities.

(iv) Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Department of Road Transport and Highways and National Highways Authority of India.

(v) Setting up of Driving Training School in the country.

(vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness both through the audio-visual and print media.

(vii) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

(viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.

(ix) Providing cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed stretches of National Highways under its Operation and Maintenance contracts.

(x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

(c) and (d) A national policy on road safety was drafted in 2004 and forwarded to the Committee on Road Safety and Traffic Management constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sundar, former Secretary (MoST), along with comments/suggestions from general public and stakeholders, for finalization. The policy envisages creation of a dedicated agency, namely,

National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board to oversee implementation of road safety laws/guidelines recommended by the Sundar Committee, to the Government. The proposal for creation of the Board is under active process. The objectives/salient features of the Road Safety Policy recommended by the Committee are as under:—

- To promote awareness about road safety issues. This would also enable and empower the different stakeholders to play a meaningful role in promoting road safety.
- To establish a road safety information database.
- To ensure safer road infrastructure by way of designing safer roads, encouraging application of intelligent transport system etc.
- To ensure fitment of safety features in the vehicles at the stage of designing, manufacture, usage, operation and maintenance.
- To strengthen the system of driver licensing and training to improve the competence and capability of drivers.
- To take measures to ensure safety of vulnerable road users keeping in view the need of non-motorised transport as well as physically challenged persons.
- To create awareness on road safety education and training.
- To take appropriate measures for enforcement of safety laws.
- To ensure emergency medical attention for road accident victims.
- To encourage human resource development and R and D for road safety.
- To strengthen the enabling legal, institutional and financial environment for promoting road safety culture in the country.
- The implementation of the policy guidelines on road safety should be looked into by a dedicated agency, namely, National Road Safety and Traffic anagement Board.

Allocation for Rajasthan NH works

†1975. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount allocated for the original works on National Highways in Rajasthan is Rs. 1.33 lac per kilometer which is the lowest in the country and this allocation is much less than the amount allocated to other States;

(b) the action being taken by the Central Government to increase the allocation of amount for the maintenance of National Highways in big State like Rajasthan so that national average can be achieved; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The allocation for National Highways (NH) Original

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.